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Weekly Compilation of

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Monday, August 23, 1976

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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

Presidential Documents

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, Washington, D.C. 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

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Administration of Gerald R. Ford

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Week Ending Friday, August 20, 1976

Veto of Bill Extending the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act

The President's Message to the House of Representatives Returning H.R. 12944 Without His Approval. Dated August 13, 1976. Released August 14, 1976

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning, without my approval, H.R. 12944, a bill "To extend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, for six months." If the only purpose of the bill were that set forth in its caption I would have no reservations about it.

The bill would, however, also make a serious substantive change in the law. It would subject rules and regulations issued under authority of the Act to a 60-day review period during which either House of Congress may disapprove the rule or regulation by simple resolution.

As I have indicated on previous occasions, I believe that provisions for review of regulations and other action by resolutions of one-house or concurrent resolution are unconstitutional. They are contrary to the general principle of separation of power whereby Congress enacts laws but the President and the agencies of government execute them. Furthermore, they violate Article I, section 7 which requires that resolutions having the force of law be sent to the President for his signature or veto. There is no provision in the Constitution for the procedure contemplated by this bill.

Congress has been considering bills of this kind in increasing number. At my direction, the Attorney General moved recently to intervene in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a comparable section of the Federal election law. I hope that Congress will reconsider H.R. 12944 and pass a bill which omits this provision.

GERALD R. FORD

The White House,
August 13, 1976

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks Upon Arrival at His Headquarters in the Crown Center Hotel for the 1976 Republican National Convention. August 15, 1976

It is wonderful to be back in Kansas City. What a wonderful welcome. And I can say without any hesitation or qualification, this is the kind of enthusiasm that will give us a victory on Wednesday night.

Now, let me say I am not going to make a speech, but I do want to introduce some very good, some very close friends of mine, first the Vice President of the United States, Nelson Rockefeller. Then, one of my best friends and one of the most ardent and effective supporters, a great Governor of my State, Governor Bill Milliken and Mrs. Milliken. Then, another very good friend—and you can't miss him—the chairman of the President Ford Committee, Rog Morton.

I have a few of the members of my wonderful family here. First a young lady who is going to be a temporary resident of the great State of Kansas when she goes to—she will be entering Kansas University this fall. She loves her photography like I love those uncommitted delegates. [*Laughter*]

Then a third son, Steve, he likes to ride the ranges up in Montana or Utah or California. He promised to stay in the saddle for the next 4 years. [*Laughter*] Then Jack,

who has been out campaigning month after month after month. Jack Ford.

And then last but not least, the most effective campaigner in the Ford family [Betty Ford]. She has more President Ford buttons with her name on it than I do. [*Laughter*]

Mike and his wonderful wife, Gayle, are going to come out here on Tuesday. The whole Ford family will be here for a reunion before we win on Wednesday night.

Thank you all. We are really just tremendously impressed with the warmth, the numbers, and the wonderful welcome you have all given us. Let me say we will not let you down, and we know we are going to win. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:22 p.m.

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks to a President Ford Youth Group, The Presidentials. August 16, 1976

Wow, what a meeting. What a convention. What a victory Wednesday night.

Let me be serious just a minute. On behalf of Mike and Gayle, Jack, Steve, and Susan and, of course, Betty, and especially on my own behalf, I want to thank all the great Presidentials for being here on your own and doing a great job.

We have had a tough 2 years. We have done a good job. But everytime the going got rougher and rougher, everytime we had a hard, tough decision to make—and we did—I had the feeling that the young people in this country understood the problems and were on our side.

But let me, if I might, take just a minute. Your parents, your grandparents, have made a great effort over their lifetime to make this a good country. But they wanted to make it a good country for one single reason—because they wanted their grandchildren to have a better America for themselves than they did for themselves.

That is what you want for your children, and that is why you are so idealistic, that is why you have a cause, that is why you are here—because you believe in something, something good about America.

You want peace at home, and you want peace throughout the world. I am on your side. In the last 2 years we have healed America at home. And in the last 2 years we have achieved peace abroad, and we are going to keep it abroad.

Our Nation is trusted, respected. We have the military capability and the diplomatic skill to keep that peace. And with the strength and the hopes and the aspirations and the visions of the American people, including all of the wonderful young people, America will continue to be the leader of the world, and we will keep the peace.

The young people of this country want their environment at home expanded. They want it better—more parks, a better life for them when they go on vacation, a better life when they live in their urban centers or on their farm. They want an environment that will make this country the kind of a country where we can have a quality of life; not today, not tomorrow, but during this next century. I am on your side.

The American people, especially our youth, want to help the economy with jobs. I am on your side. The opposition party talks about statistics as far as unemployment is concerned. The only criteria that I use is that every American—white or black, old and young—who wants a job has a job.

Our country has grown from 13 poor, struggling colonies with less than 3 million people 100 years ago. For the first 100 years of our history, we developed the greatest form of government in the history of mankind. Then, in the second 100 years of America's history, we were the leaders of an industrial revolution that made it possible for us to lead the world in worldly goods.

But it is my feeling that in our third century—and I think this came through during that wonderful Fourth of July celebration—we have to make the third century of America the century of the individual so that he lives—we have to have the opportunity for that individual, wherever he or she may live, a century where we have peace abroad and peace at home, where we have the environment where a quality of life is meaningful to each and every one of us, where a job is not just a government-promised job, but a job with some real commonsense with an opportunity for advancement and permanency—a third century where you and your children and your grandchildren can have a vision for a broadened opportunity for each and every one of you every day of every year.

We have to have that vision of a better America. Our forefathers gave us much—a good government, the opportunity to increase our worldly goods—but if we don't keep and strengthen the opportunity for individual liberty all of which we believe in won't have much meaning. And so I say to you, Jerry Ford is on your side. I will stand with you, work with you, and we will win a great victory on Wednesday.

You have a thousand wonderful young people here today, but we have to multiply and multiply and multiply our efforts so we win on November 2.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:50 a.m. at the Trade Mart Building.

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks to the President Ford Committee Staff. August 18, 1976

Let me just thank all of you that I didn't have a chance to express my appreciation with a handshake.

It was a great night last night, and it came about because of all the hard work of people like yourselves, not only here, but all over the country. It is a big step toward the result that we are going to get tonight and the more important result we are going to get November 2.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:45 a.m. in the Liberty Room at the Crown Center Hotel.

Death of American Military Officers in Korea

Statement by the White House Press Secretary. August 18, 1976

The President condemns the vicious and unprovoked murder of two American officers last night in the demilitarized zone near Panmunjom in Korea.

These officers were peacefully supervising a work detail in the neutral zone when they were subjected to a brutal and cowardly attack totally without warning.

Total responsibility for the consequences of these murders rests with the North Korean Government.

NOTE: The statement was released in Kansas City, Mo.

Kansas City, Missouri

Remarks of the President and Ronald Reagan in a Question-and-Answer Session With Reporters. August 19, 1976

THE PRESIDENT. Governor Reagan, I came over to the hotel for the purpose of congratulating you on a very fine campaign and expressing to you our compliments for the outstanding organization that you had. You really got us in shape.

I think the campaign you waged and the organization you put together was beneficial to the campaign that we have, beginning right away to defeat the Democratic nominees and to make certain that our philosophy prevails for the next 4 years.

I thank you for your indication of full support and, again, I congratulate you for a fine campaign. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Mr. President, my congratulations to you. It was a good fight, Mom, and he won.

My congratulations and, of course, you know that as we both agreed all the way from the very beginning, once the fight was over, we are on the same side and we go forward together.

QUESTIONS

Q. Mr. President, did you discuss the Vice Presidency with Governor Reagan?

THE PRESIDENT. I talked about a number of possibilities. We had a discussion in that regard, yes.

Q. Mr. President, was Mr. Reagan one of those possibilities you discussed?

THE PRESIDENT. That is a private matter between Governor Reagan and myself, and I don't think we should comment further.

Q. Governor Reagan, are you prepared to campaign actively for President Ford in the election?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Yes, as I said before, and that is what I have always done and believed in with regard to the party, and I will do all I can.

Q. Governor Reagan, your wife said earlier this evening that she would be happy to get back to the ranch when this is all over. Is that what is going to happen, sir?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. I want to tell you I will be happy to get back to the ranch, too, but I don't think we mean permanently settle down on the ranch, but I know what she meant. We are both tired—I think we are all tired—having been through this campaign. We are looking forward to a breathing spell.

Q. Governor Reagan, are you going to stand by your statement you would not accept the Vice Presidency?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. I shall stand by that statement, yes.

Q. Governor Reagan, could you turn down a draft by the convention?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Well now you are asking, Barry, one of those hypothetical questions. I will answer that if and when it comes.

Q. Mr. President, why did you send Ben Becker out to California to negotiate the pardon of Mr. Nixon when he was under investigation for criminal tax fraud at the time?

THE PRESIDENT. I think we are discussing matters that are of much more interest at this time. I have answered it in the past. If you go back and look at the record, you will find out.

Q. Mr. President, is there a place for Ronald Reagan in your administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Of course there is. As came out during the campaign, I wanted Governor Reagan to be a part of my administration. And there certainly would be. He is a person whose philosophy is virtually identical with mine, and he certainly has indicated a great capability as an

executive of the largest State in the Union. The answer is yes.

Q. Mr. President, how long is the Vice-Presidential list?

THE PRESIDENT. We will make the announcement tomorrow.

Q. Mr. President, you now, in principle, have the votes of approximately 20 percent of the electorate. How do you propose to go about getting the votes of another 31 percent?

THE PRESIDENT. That is very simple. Our philosophy, I think, is believed in by a majority of the American people today. In my opinion, the Democratic ticket, the nominees for President and Vice President, have embraced the Democratic platform. They have embraced the record of the Democratic Congress. Both are very vulnerable, and I don't think they coincide with the views, the philosophy of the American people today. And we are going to go out and campaign against them as candidates, against the Democratic platform, and against the Democratic congressional record. I think the American people will support us and defeat them.

Q. Will you debate Jimmy Carter, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. We don't rule it out.

Q. Mr. President, you haven't said whether you have or you have not made up your mind yet about a Vice President.

THE PRESIDENT. I have not.

Q. Can you tell us who is on your Vice-Presidential list?

THE PRESIDENT. I will tell you who the choice is tomorrow.

Q. What time?

THE PRESIDENT. How early do you want it? [*Laughter*]

Q. Now. It is past 2 a.m.

THE PRESIDENT. We will advise you at the appropriate time.

Q. Mr. Reagan, do you consider your philosophy almost identical with that of the President?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. I think basically it has to be pretty much the same philosophy—as I said it was when I picked Senator Schweiker—or we wouldn't be in the same party. I think there are differences. I think we have different approaches to a number of things but, I think, basically, a basic philosophy, yes.

Q. Would you be willing to serve in the Ford administration?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. I had the honor of having that offered to me once and turned it down because there was something else that I thought I would rather do. And I still believe I would rather take up again what I was doing before I became a candidate, which was in the communications field.

Q. If the convention were to draft you, sir, would you reject any move by the convention?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. I just said that that is a hypothetical question. I haven't seen any signs of such a thing happening. I will answer when I see any such signs.

Q. Since most of his campaign has been fought, do you think you would have any trouble selling Mr. Reagan to the American people, I mean, as bitterly as you have contested him?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think our fight has been a bitter one. It has been a very hotly contested campaign. I happen to think the campaign was beneficial. It took a lot of time and a lot of effort, but the net result is good for the Republican Party.

Q. Governor Reagan, are you saying you will permit your name to be entered for the Vice-Presidential nomination tomorrow night?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. No.

Q. You will not permit it?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. No.

Q. Mr. President, could you reflect on the course of the campaign, and would you explain why you think it was so difficult for you, an incumbent President, to get the nomination in your own fight to——

THE PRESIDENT. Governor Reagan is probably the most effective campaigner in the United States today. And when you are competing against a man with that skill, ability, and dedication, of course it is a tough contest. I have complimented him for a fine campaign. He had a good organization. That makes it very difficult.

Q. Governor Reagan, you seem to have left the door open for a draft, or at least not closed it entirely?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. No.

Q. Are you going to instruct the States not to enter your name in nomination tomorrow evening?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. I am not going to be so presumptuous as to go out there and suggest that maybe they are going to do it. That is what I meant by I haven't seen any signs of that. I will treat it at that time. But I am not going to go running out and saying don't you dare do something, and they might look at me very astounded and say, "We didn't have any intention of doing that." [*Laughter*]

Q. Mr. President, will Governor Reagan be invited to address the convention tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT. Quite frankly, I haven't thought about it.

Q. What is your instinct about that?

THE PRESIDENT. I will talk to the Governor about it.

Q. Mr. President, do you still feel that Governor Reagan's comments about the Panama Canal in the campaign were irresponsible?

THE PRESIDENT. I support the Republican platform, which was agreed to by his people and by my people.

Q. I don't think that answers the question.

THE PRESIDENT. That is the way I will answer it. [*Laughter*]

Q. Mr. President, California, Texas, and several other States were very solid for Ronald Reagan. Tonight after the nomination, I was quite pleased to see Texas, who fought so hard, waving Ford signs. How do you plan on carrying these States, being sure they go to Ford in November?

THE PRESIDENT. I think all during the campaign, the Ford people that I talked with indicated they would have supported Governor Reagan, and the Reagan people that I had the opportunity to talk with or heard from otherwise said they would support President Ford. I think that is true across the spectrum as far as the convention is concerned. Our principles transcend personalities, and I think we can solidify the party, strengthen it, and win in November.

Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:05 a.m. at the Alameda Plaza Hotel, where Governor Reagan was staying for the Republican National Convention. The President went to the hotel to meet with the former Governor following the balloting for the Presidential nominee at the convention.

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks to Campaign Supporters Following His Nomination as the 1976 Republican Presidential Candidate. August 19, 1976

It is really awfully hard to express adequately my deep appreciation, that of Betty, all of the family.

As we have traveled in every one of the 50 States, you have been wonderful in helping and assisting. You have been tremendous here as an inspiration in the closing minutes of a tough ball game.

When things didn't go as well as we would have liked, we knew that we had literally millions and millions of people—young, old—all kinds of Americans who were out there willing to go to the mat to help us. And I want you to know that helped us get through and win, and win on November 2.

I want you to know that I just returned from a meeting with Governor Reagan. I complimented him on a real good campaign. I indicated that we certainly wanted him to be standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the months ahead. And I am glad to report that he indicated he would be there fighting just as hard as I am.

So, I think we can leave that arena tomorrow night unified, vigorous, determined to win for the American people on November 2.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:25 a.m. in the Lobby at the Crown Center Hotel.

Kansas City, Missouri

Announcement by the President of Senator Robert J. Dole as his Vice-Presidential Running Mate and an Exchange of Remarks Between the President, Senator Dole, Senator Robert P. Griffin, Senator Paul Laxalt, and Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller. August 19, 1976

THE PRESIDENT. It is a very great occasion for me, it is a very proud moment for me, to have the opportunity of introducing my running mate for this campaign in 1976.

I am really thrilled with the opportunity of having Bob Dole as my running mate. I am enthusiastic for a number of reasons. I have known Bob Dole a good many years. I served with him in the House of Representatives for 8 years. He served with great distinction not only in the House but in the Senate of the United States, representing the great State of Kansas.

Bob Dole, of course, had an outstanding record in the military service in World War II. Bob Dole has been a team player. Bob Dole's philosophy and mine coincide identically. Bob Dole is a good campaigner. Bob Dole will help to heal any divisiveness within the party.

I have talked to Governor Reagan and told him of my selection. Governor Reagan has endorsed my selection of Bob Dole as my running mate. I have consulted with others who were very, very strong as potential candidates as my running mate and all of them have indicated their support, their endorsement, of Bob Dole.

So, it is a great pleasure, privilege, and I am extremely proud to introduce to you Senator Bob Dole of the great State of Kansas as my running mate for victory in 1976.

Bob.

SENATOR DOLE. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mrs. Ford, Mr. Vice President, let me first introduce my wife, Elizabeth, from the State of North Carolina, and that will be part of our Southern strategy. [*Laughter*]

Let me also indicate that I did not expect to receive a phone call this morning, but I am very pleased that we were in. [*Laughter*]

I have known, of course, President Ford at a time when I could call him Jerry. As he has indicated, we served in the House together. He has been in many places in Kansas on my behalf. And I remember in 1974 when the going was tough and I was trying to be reelected one of the President's—I think the President's last—campaign stops was in Wichita, Kansas, in the rain. And he came there to help me, and I won by a very narrow margin after trailing some 12 points in the polls. I say that to indicate his great help and also the fact that you can catch up if you are behind.

The Vice President, of course, was one of my earlier supporters in Kansas. And he came to Kansas, I think, to visit Alf Landon, and while he was there I had him do a little work for me. That was very helpful, too.

One of my other great supporters was Governor Reagan. He came to Wichita and did an outstanding job on my behalf. He is a great Republican, and I am certainly pleased that he has indicated that I will be all right. [*Laughter*]

So, I am just very pleased to be here. I am very proud to be on the ticket with President Ford for many, many reasons that I will go into as I go along the campaign trail.

I think he has an outstanding record. I am realistic. I know there is work to be done between now and November—in fact, in a little over 8 weeks—but I want to be a part of a winning combination.

It is my opinion that we can win based on his leadership. I am not certain what I can add to the ticket but I will work hard and do the best I can, not just for the Republican Party, but because I think America needs President Ford's leadership for 4 more years.

Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT. We have on the podium, just to indicate and to show the unity that has come out of a tough struggle and very hard competition, some people that I think will be extremely helpful and beneficial in the 74 days between now and November 2.

Of course the Vice President has, himself, been a tower of strength in the 2 years that I have been President. He has not only done a great job as Vice President, but he has been of inestimable help to me in making some tough decisions. He fully supports this choice. He was in on the final decisionmaking. But I think, in addition to that kind of support, we are fortunate to have here two outstanding United States Senators who, for the last few months, have been on the opposite side, but who have, while they were performing their senatorial duties, worked together on many occasions.

I think the fact that Senator Paul Laxalt, who was chairman of Governor Reagan's campaign, and Senator Bob Griffin, who has been a long-time friend and supporter of mine and the minority whip in the United States Senate, can be here indicates their joint efforts. I think it would be nice if Bob and Paul came forth and maybe said a word together, or individually.

Bob.

SENATOR GRIFFIN. Paul and I have been very good, close friends in the United States Senate, and one of the great experiences of my participation in this campaign is to work with a counterpart like Paul Laxalt, who is always straightforward, who is always responsible, and whose word was as good as gold.

Paul, you have been a great leader of the opposition. We are so happy that we are going to be working together from now on.

SENATOR LAXALT. Thank you, Bob, very much.

We worked for months in an effort to have a harmonious convention, and I think we achieved that. And it has been due, in great part, to Bob Griffin.

I might say, also, that I couldn't be more delighted than to hear the news this morning about Dole's selection. In my judgment, he is going to make a tremendous candidate. He is sound philosophically. My daughter, and others, consider him to be a fox. [*Laughter*] And he is going to bring to the campaign, I think, a delightful sense of humor which we are going to need in the next 8 weeks.

I think we have in these two men the potential of a winning combination, and I am looking forward to working with both of them in the next several weeks.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT. Last, but not least, as I said, a man who has done a super job as Vice President. I would like to introduce to all of you, so he can indicate his feelings, the Vice President of the United States.

VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER. *Mr. President, Vice President-designate, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:*

To me, this is a very important moment for every American and for the world because the United States has been through, as have other countries of the world, a most difficult period. If we think back 2 years ago where this country was and where the world was and think what President Ford has done to restore the confidence of the American people in government, to restore the vitality and dynamism of our economy, to stop inflation, to move forward on employment, to regain the confidence of the leaders of the world, of the people of the world and America—America has been waiting and the world has been waiting—for this decision. I think we are fortunate, ladies and gentlemen, that the people of this country and, therefore, the people of the world, are going to have the chance to select these two leaders to carry on the kind of responsible government in which America, and the world, can have trust and confidence; to preserve freedom, respect for dignity, and equality of opportunity for all.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT. I thought you might like to get a picture of the beauty of the Ford-Dole team, and I think both Bob and I couldn't be happier to have them out helping and assisting. And believe me, the Ford-Dole team is not just the two of us, we have four of us.

We have some other members of the Ford family—Mike and Gayle, Steve and Susan. I don't know whether we have got Jack or not, yet, but he, as you all know, has been doing quite a bit—and Michelle, Senator Laxalt's daughter. I think you ought to get a good chance to see what this kind of outfit is going to be. And we are going to get Bob's daughter. We didn't have much time to get that coordinated, but she will be here.

Thank you all very much. You will see a lot of us. We will be out there battling. We will be out there doing a good job. I couldn't be happier having Bob Dole as Vice President.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:05 p.m. at the Crown Center Hotel.

1976 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

The President's Remarks Accepting the Nomination. August 19, 1976

Mr. Chairman, delegates and alternates to this Republican Convention:

I am honored by your nomination, and I accept it with pride, with gratitude, and with a total will to win a great victory for the American people. We will wage a winning campaign in every region of this country, from the snowy banks of Minnesota to the sandy plains of Georgia. We concede not a single State. We concede not a single vote.

This evening I am proud to stand before this great convention as the first incumbent President since Dwight D. Eisenhower who can tell the American people: America is at peace.

Tonight, I can tell you straightaway this Nation is sound, this Nation is secure, this Nation is on the march to full economic recovery and a better quality of life for all Americans.

And I will tell you one more thing. This year the issues are on our side. I am ready, I am eager to go before the American people and debate the real issues face to face with Jimmy Carter. The American people have a right to know firsthand exactly where both of us stand.

I am deeply grateful to those who stood with me in winning the nomination of the party whose cause I have served all of my adult life. I respect the convictions of those who want a change in Washington. I want a change, too. After 22 long years of majority misrule, let's change the United States Congress.

My gratitude tonight reaches far beyond this arena to countless friends whose confidence, hard work, and unselfish support have brought me to this moment. It would be unfair to single out anyone, but may I make an exception for my wonderful family—Mike, Jack, Steve and Susan, and especially my dear wife Betty.

We Republicans have had some tough competition. We not only preach the virtues of competition, we practice them. But tonight we come together not on a battlefield to conclude a cease-fire, but to join forces on a training field that has conditioned us all for the rugged contest ahead.

Let me say this from the bottom of my heart. After the scrimmages of the past few months, it really feels good to have Ron Reagan on the same side of the line.

To strengthen our championship lineup, the convention has wisely chosen one of the ablest Americans as our next Vice President, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas. With his help, with your help, with the help of millions of Americans who cherish peace, who want freedom preserved, prosperity shared, and pride in America, we will win this election.

I speak not of a Republican victory, but a victory for the American people. You at home listening tonight, you are the people who pay the taxes and obey the laws. You are the people who make our system work. You are the people who make America what it is. It is from your ranks that I come and on your side that I stand.

Something wonderful happened to this country of ours the past 2 years. We all came to realize it on the Fourth of July. Together, out of years of turmoil and tragedy, wars and riots, assassinations and wrongdoing in high places, Americans recaptured the Spirit of 1776. We saw

again the pioneer vision of our revolutionary founders and our immigrant ancestors. Their vision was of free men and free women enjoying limited government and unlimited opportunity.

The mandate I want in 1976 is to make this vision a reality, but it will take the voices and the votes of many more Americans who are not Republicans to make that mandate binding and my mission possible.

I have been called an unelected President, an accidental President. We may even hear that again from the other party, despite the fact that I was welcomed and endorsed by an overwhelming majority of their elected representatives in the Congress who certified my fitness to our highest office.

Having become Vice President and President without expecting or seeking either, I have a special feeling toward these high offices. To me, the Presidency and the Vice Presidency were not prizes to be won, but a duty to be done.

So, tonight, it is not the power and the glamor of the Presidency that leads me to ask for another 4 years. It is something every hard-working American will understand—the challenge of a job well begun, but far from finished.

Two years ago, on August 9, 1974, I placed my hand on the Bible, which Betty held, and took the same constitutional oath that was administered to George Washington. I had faith in our people, in our institutions, and in myself.

"My fellow Americans," I said, "our long national nightmare is over." It was an hour in our history that troubled our minds and tore at our hearts. Anger and hatred had risen to dangerous levels, dividing friends and families. The polarization of our political order had aroused unworthy passions of reprisal and revenge. Our governmental system was closer to stalemate than at any time since Abraham Lincoln took that same oath of office.

Our economy was in the throes of runaway inflation, taking us headlong into the worst recession since Franklin D. Roosevelt took the same oath. On that dark day I told my fellow countrymen, "I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots, so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers."

On a marble fireplace in the White House is carved a prayer which John Adams wrote. It concludes, "May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof." Since I have resided in that historic house, I have tried to live by that prayer. I faced many tough problems. I probably made some mistakes, but on balance, America and Americans have made an incredible comeback since August 1974. Nobody can honestly say otherwise. And the plain truth is that the great progress we have made at home and abroad was in spite of the majority who run the Congress of the United States.

For 2 years I have stood for all the people against a vote-hungry, free-spending congressional majority on Capitol Hill. Fifty-five times I vetoed extravagant and unwise legislation; 45 times I made those vetoes stick. Those vetoes have saved American taxpayers billions and billions of dollars. I am against the big tax spender and for the little taxpayer.

I called for a permanent tax cut, coupled with spending reductions, to stimulate the economy and relieve hard-pressed middle-income taxpay-

ers. Your personal exemption must be raised from $750 to $1,000. The other party's platform talks about tax reform, but there is one big problem—their own Congress won't act.

I called for reasonable constitutional restrictions on court-ordered busing of schoolchildren, but the other party's platform concedes that busing should be a last resort. But there is the same problem—their own Congress won't act.

I called for a major overhaul of criminal laws to crack down on crime and illegal drugs. The other party's platform deplores America's $90 billion cost of crime. There is the problem again—their own Congress won't act.

The other party's platform talks about a strong defense. Now, here is the other side of the problem—their own Congress did act. They slashed $50 billion from our national defense needs in the last 10 years.

My friends, Washington is not the problem, their Congress is the problem.

You know, the President of the United States is not a magician who can wave a wand or sign a paper that will instantly end a war, cure a recession, or make bureaucracy disappear. A President has immense powers under the Constitution, but all of them ultimately come from the American people and their mandate to him.

That is why, tonight, I turn to the American people and ask not only for your prayers, but also for your strength and your support, for your voice and for your vote. I come before you with a 2-year record of performance, without your mandate. I offer you a 4-year pledge of greater performance with your mandate.

As Governor Al Smith used to say, "Let's look at the record." Two years ago, inflation was 12 percent. Sales were off. Plants were shut down. Thousands were being laid off every week. Fear of the future was throttling down our economy and threatening millions of families.

Let's look at the record since August 1974. Inflation has been cut in half. Payrolls are up. Profits are up. Production is up. Purchases are up. Since the recession was turned around almost 4 million of our fellow Americans have found new jobs or got their old jobs back. This year, more men and women have jobs than ever before in the history of the United States. Confidence has returned and we are in the full surge of sound recovery to steady prosperity.

Two years ago America was mired in withdrawal from Southeast Asia. A decade of Congresses had shortchanged our global defenses and threatened our strategic posture. Mounting tension between Israel and the Arab nations made another war seem inevitable. The whole world watched and wondered where America was going. Did we in our domestic turmoil have the will, the stamina, and the unity to stand up for freedom?

Look at the record since August, 2 years ago. Today, America is at peace and seeks peace for all nations. Not a single American is at war anywhere on the face of this Earth tonight.

Our ties with Western Europe and Japan, economic as well as military, were never stronger. Our relations with Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and mainland China are firm, vigilant, and forward-looking. Policies I have initiated offer sound progress for the peoples of the Pacific, Africa, and Latin America. Israel and Egypt, both trusting the United

States, have taken an historic step that promises an eventual just settlement for the whole Middle East.

The world now respects America's policy of peace through strength. The United States is again the confident leader of the free world. Nobody questions our dedication to peace, but nobody doubts our willingness to use our strength when our vital interests are at stake, and we will.

I called for an up-to-date, powerful Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines that will keep America secure for decades. A strong military posture is always the best insurance for peace. But America's strength has never rested on arms alone. It is rooted in our mutual commitment of our citizens and leaders in the highest standards of ethics and morality and in the spiritual renewal which our Nation is undergoing right now.

Two years ago, people's confidence in their highest officials, to whom they had overwhelmingly entrusted power, had twice been shattered. Losing faith in the word of their elected leaders, Americans lost some of their own faith in themselves.

Again, let's look at the record since August 1974. From the start, my administration has been open, candid, forthright. While my entire public and private life was under searching examination for the Vice Presidency, I reaffirmed my life-long conviction that truth is the glue that holds government together—not only government but civilization, itself. I have demanded honesty, decency, and personal integrity from everybody in the executive branch of the Government. The House and Senate have the same duty.

The American people will not accept a double standard in the United States Congress. Those who make our laws today must not debase the reputation of our great legislative bodies that have given us such giants as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Sam Rayburn, and Robert A. Taft. Whether in the Nation's Capital, the State capital, or city hall, private morality and public trust must go together.

From August of 1974 to August of 1976, the record shows steady progress upward toward prosperity, peace, and public trust. My record is one of progress, not platitudes. My record is one of specifics, not smiles. My record is one of performance, not promises. It is a record I am proud to run on. It is a record the American people—Democrats, Independents, and Republicans alike—will support on November 2.

For the next 4 years I pledge to you that I will hold to the steady course we have begun. But I have no intention of standing on the record alone. We will continue winning the fight against inflation. We will go on reducing the dead weight and impudence of bureaucracy.

We will submit a balanced budget by 1978. We will improve the quality of life at work, at play, and in our homes and in our neighborhoods. We will not abandon our cities. We will encourage urban programs which assure safety in the streets, create healthy environments, and restore neighborhood pride.

We will return control of our children's education to parents and local school authorities. We will make sure that the party of Lincoln remains the party of equal rights. We will create a tax structure that is fair for all our citizens, one that preserves the continuity of the family home, the family farm, and the family business.

We will ensure the integrity of the social security system and improve Medicare so that our older citizens can enjoy the health and the happiness that they have earned. There is no reason they should have to go broke just to get well.

We will make sure that this rich Nation does not neglect citizens who are less fortunate, but provides for their needs with compassion and with dignity. We will reduce the growth and the cost of government and allow individual breadwinners and businesses to keep more of the money that they earn.

We will create a climate in which our economy will provide a meaningful job for everyone who wants to work and a decent standard of life for all Americans. We will ensure that all of our young people have a better chance in life than we had, an education they can use, and a career they can be proud of.

We will carry out a farm policy that assures a fair market price for the farmer, encourages full production, leads to record exports, and eases the hunger within the human family. We will never use the bounty of America's farmers as a pawn in international diplomacy. There will be no embargoes.

We will continue our strong leadership to bring peace, justice, and economic progress where there is turmoil, especially in the Middle East. We will build a safer and saner world through patient negotiations and dependable arms agreements which reduce the danger of conflict and horror of thermonuclear war. While I am President, we will not return to a collision course that could reduce civilization to ashes.

We will build an America where people feel rich in spirit as well as in worldly goods. We will build an America where people feel proud about themselves and about their country.

We will build on performance, not promises; experience, not expediency; real progress instead of mysterious plans to be revealed in some dim and distant future.

The American people are wise, wiser than our opponents think. They know who pays for every campaign promise. They are not afraid of the truth. We will tell them the truth.

From start to finish, our campaign will be credible; it will be responsible. We will come out fighting, and we will win. Yes, we have all seen the polls and the pundits who say our party is dead. I have heard that before. So did Harry Truman. I will tell you what I think. The only polls that count are the polls the American people go to on November 2.

And right now, I predict that the American people are going to say that night, "Jerry, you have done a good job, keep right on doing it."

As I try in my imagination to look into the homes where families are watching the end of this great convention, I can't tell which faces are Republicans, which are Democrats, and which are Independents. I cannot see their color or their creed. I see only Americans.

I see Americans who love their husbands, their wives, and their children. I see Americans who love their country for what it has been and what it must become. I see Americans who work hard, but who are willing to sacrifice all they have worked for to keep their children and their country free.

I see Americans who in their own quiet way pray for peace among nations and peace among themselves. We do love our neighbors, and we do forgive those who have trespassed against us.

I see a new generation that knows what is right and knows itself, a generation determined to preserve its ideals, its environment, our Nation, and the world.

My fellow Americans, I like what I see. I have no fear for the future of this great country. And as we go forward together, I promise you once more what I promised before: to uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right, and to do the very best that I can for America.

God helping me, I won't let you down.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:45 p.m. in Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo. His remarks were broadcast live on radio and television.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

Following is a listing of items of general interest which were announced to the press during the period covered by this issue but which are not carried elsewhere in the issue.

August 15

The President left the White House for a stay in Kansas City, Mo., the site of the 1976 Republican National Convention.

August 16

The President attended a reception hosted by Representative John J. Rhodes, minority leader of the House of Representatives, for Governors, Members of Congress, and heads of State delegations at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel.

August 17

The White House announced that following the earthquake in the Philippines, the President sent a message to President Ferdinand E. Marcos offering U.S. assistance and condolences to the families of those who lost their lives.

August 18

The President met with a group of Republican Governors to discuss party unity, the fall campaign, and the selection of the Vice-Presidential running mate, in the Presidential suite at the Crown Center Hotel.

The President went to the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel to attend the United Republican Victory Luncheon.

The President sent a telegram, and later telephoned Senator Jake Garn, in Bloomfield, Colo., to express his condolences on the death of the Senator's wife, Hazel, who was killed in an automobile accident.

August 20

The President attended a breakfast meeting of the Republican National Committee at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel.

ACTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

Approved August 14, 1976

H.J. Res. 738 ----------Public Law 94-389
An act providing for Federal participation in preserving the Tule elk population in California.

H.R. 1394 ----------Private Law 94-60
An act for the relief of Suk Chin and Hae Suk Chin.

H.R. 1395---------- Private Law 94-61
An act for the relief of Mee Kyung Cho and Hee Kyung Cho.

H.R. 1396 ----------Private Law 94-62
An act for the relief of Sang Kook Chung and Hwa Soon Chung.

H.R. 1397---------- Private Law 94-63
An act for the relief of Ae Sook Song and Mi Yun Lee.

H.R. 1425 ----------Private Law 94-64
An act for the relief of Juliet Elizabeth Tozzi.

H.R. 1507---------- Private Law 94-65
An act for the relief of Marisa Marzano.

H.R. 1645---------- Private Law 94-66
An act for the relief of Kevin Patrick Saunders.

H.R. 2118---------- Private Law 94-67
An act for the relief of Cheryl Lynn V. Camacho.

H.R. 2278 ----------Private Law 94-68
An act for the relief of Mrs. Mary Saxton (Mary Nuku).

H.R. 2399---------- Private Law 94-69
An act for the relief of Leonard Alfred Brownrigg.

H.R. 2411 ----------Private Law 94-70
An act for the relief of Alinor Anvari Adams.

H.R. 2495 ----------Private Law 94-71
An act for the relief of Miss Malgorzata Kuzniarek Czapowski.

H.R. 2502 ----------Private Law 94-72
An act for the relief of Peter Olav Mesikepp.

ACTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT—Continued

H.R. 2565 ----------Private Law 94-73
An act for the relief of Luisa Marillac Hughes, Marco Antonio Hughes, Maria del Cisne Hughes, Maria Augusta Hughes, Miguel Vicente Hughes, Veronica del Rocio Hughes, and Ivan Hughes.

H.R. 2940 ----------Private Law 94-74
An act for the relief of Maria Sylvia Macias Elliott.

H.R. 2941---------- Private Law 94-75
An act for the relief of Susan Rosemary Harwood.

H.R. 3372 ----------Private Law 94-76
An act for the relief of Tze Tsun Li.

H.R. 4053 ----------Private Law 94-77
An act for the relief of Roderic Patrick Stafford.

H.R. 5052 ----------Private Law 94-78
An act for the relief of Yolanda E. Vez.

H.R. 5500 ----------Private Law 94-79
An act for the relief of Rafael Strochlitz Wurzel.

H.R. 5648 ----------Private Law 94-80
An act for the relief of Violetta Cebreros.

H.R. 6093 ----------Private Law 94-81
An act for the relief of Maria D'Arpino.

H.R. 6392 ----------Private Law 94-82
An act for the relief of Koviljka C. Clendenen.

H.R. 6687---------- Private Law 94-83
An act for the relief of Doo Hoon Park.

H.R. 7404---------- Private Law 94-84
An act for the relief of Christine Donnelly.

H.R. 7494----------Private Law 94-85
An act for the relief of Luigi Santaniello.

H.R. 7882---------- Private Law 94-86
An act for the relief of Miss Leonor Young.

H.R. 7908----------Private Law 94-87
An act for the relief of Edward Drag.

H.R. 8557----------Private Law 94-88
An act for the relief of Carmen Thomas.

H.R. 8695---------- Private Law 94-89
An act for the relief of Eugene Homsy Phillips.

H.R. 10076---------- Private Law 94-90
An act for the relief of Mrs. Kazuko Scillion.

H.R. 11076---------- Private Law 94-91
An act for the relief of Ok Ja Choi.

ACTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT—Continued

H.R. 12169---------- Public Law 94-385
Energy Conservation and Production Act.

H.R. 13121---------- Public Law 94-386
An act to direct the Law Revision Counsel to prepare and publish the District of Columbia Code through publication of supplement V to the 1973 edition, with the Council of the District of Columbia to be responsible for preparation and publication of such Code thereafter.

H.R. 14234---------- Public Law 94-387
Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1977.

S. 1689---------- Public Law 94-388
An act to amend the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-578), as amended.

CHECKLIST OF WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASES

The following releases of the Office of the White House Press Secretary, distributed during the period covered by this issue, are not included in the issue.

Released August 19, 1976

News conference: on the President's selection of Senator Robert J. Dole as his Vice-Presidential running mate—by Richard B. Cheney, Assistant to the President, and Edward C. Schmults, Deputy Counsel to the President

Advance text: 1976 Republican National Convention, President's acceptance speech

NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE

NOTE: The Congress being in recess, no nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Editor's Note

Note Concerning the Closing Time of This Issue

On Friday, August 20, the President left Kansas City, Mo., and stopped at Russell, Kans., on his way to Vail, Colo. Releases issued in those cities which were not received in time for publication in this issue will be printed next week.

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